



General Assembly

January Session, 2007

Committee Bill No. 6100

LCO No. 4763

04763HB06100VA_

Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Introduced by:
(VA)

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE PAYMENT OF GRANTS UNDER THE
MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF FUND.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 27-100a of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2007*):

3 (a) As used in this section, (1) "department" means the Military
4 Department, (2) "fund" means the Military Family Relief Fund
5 established [in accordance with] pursuant to this section, (3) "eligible
6 member of the armed forces" and "eligible member" means a member
7 of the armed forces, as defined in subsection (a) of section 27-103,
8 including the Connecticut National Guard, who is [on active duty]
9 performing active service and who is domiciled in this state, (4)
10 "immediate family member" means an eligible member's spouse, child
11 or parent who is domiciled in this state, or any other member of an
12 eligible member's family who lives in the same household as the
13 eligible member, and (5) "essential personal or household goods or
14 services" includes, but is not limited to, repairs, medical services that
15 are not covered by insurance, transportation, babysitting, clothing,
16 school supplies or any other goods or services that are essential to the

17 well-being of an eligible member's immediate family.

18 (b) There is established, within the General Fund, a separate,
19 nonlapsing account to be known as the "Military Family Relief Fund".
20 The account shall contain (1) any amounts appropriated or otherwise
21 made available by the state for the purposes of this section, (2) any
22 moneys required by law to be deposited in the account, and (3) gifts,
23 grants, donations or bequests made for the purposes of this section.
24 Investment earnings credited to the assets of the fund shall become
25 part of the assets of the fund. Any balance remaining in the account at
26 the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in the account for
27 the fiscal year next succeeding. The State Treasurer shall administer
28 the fund. All moneys deposited in the account shall be used by the
29 Military Department for the purposes of this section. The Military
30 Department may deduct and retain from the moneys in the account an
31 amount equal to the costs incurred by the department in administering
32 the provisions of this section, except that said amount shall not exceed
33 two per cent of the moneys deposited in the account in any fiscal year.

34 (c) The Military Department shall use the Military Family Relief
35 Fund to make grants [to] on behalf of immediate family members of
36 eligible members of the armed forces for essential personal or
37 household goods or services in this state if the payment for such goods
38 or services would be a hardship for such family member because of the
39 military service of the eligible member. The department shall make
40 such grants to the person identified in the application process pursuant
41 to subsection (d) of this section as providing such goods or services.
42 The department shall not make any grant that exceeds the balance
43 available for grants in the fund.

44 (d) The department shall establish [an] a simple application process
45 that [is simple for] requires immediate family members to indicate the
46 goods or services applied for and the name and address of the person
47 who will provide the goods or services. The department shall act on
48 each application no later than seven days after the date on which the

49 completed application is submitted to the department.

50 (e) On or after six months from June 30, 2005, after evaluating the
51 performance of the program during the preceding six months,
52 including available resources and applications received, the
53 department may commence the process to adopt regulations, in
54 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, that would facilitate the
55 purposes of this section, including, but not limited to, establishing a
56 maximum amount of each grant, of each type of grant or of grants [to]
57 on behalf of the immediate family members of any eligible member,
58 and establishing criteria for the approval of grant applications. The
59 department may implement the policies and procedures contained in
60 such proposed regulations while in the process of adopting such
61 proposed regulations, provided the department publishes notice of
62 intention to adopt the regulations in the Connecticut Law Journal no
63 later than twenty days after implementing such policies and
64 procedures. Policies and procedures implemented pursuant to this
65 subsection shall be valid until the earlier of the date on which such
66 regulations are effective or one year after the publication of such notice
67 of intention.

68 (f) On or before October 15, 2005, and on or before the fifteenth day
69 following the close of each calendar quarter thereafter, the department
70 shall submit a report to the select committee of the General Assembly
71 having cognizance of matters relating to veterans' and military affairs,
72 in accordance with section 11-4a, that contains the following
73 information for the preceding calendar quarter: (1) The number of
74 applications received, (2) the number of eligible members whose
75 immediate family members [received] were provided goods or
76 services pursuant to grants under this section, (3) the amount in grants
77 made [to] on behalf of the immediate family of each such eligible
78 member, (4) the uses for such grants, and (5) any recommendations
79 regarding the Military Family Relief Fund, including any proposed
80 legislation to facilitate the purposes of this section. Such reports shall
81 not identify the name of any eligible member or of any immediate

82 family member. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of
83 section 1-210, all information obtained by the Military Department that
84 contains the name or address of, or other information that could be
85 used to identify, an eligible member or an immediate family member
86 shall be confidential.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2007</i>	27-100a
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Statement of Purpose:

To revise the application and grant award process under the Military Family Relief Fund to ensure that such grants are paid directly to persons who supply goods and services to the immediate family members of eligible members of the armed forces.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. GRAZIANI, 57th Dist.

H.B. 6100